



# Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

## Christian, Carry Your Cross February 24-26, 2024

### **Mark 8:31-38**

*<sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.*

*<sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."*

*<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life<sup>[a]</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."*

1. Share with your group the reason you joined Mount Olive.
2. Verse 31 marks a turning point in Mark's gospel. How so?
3. What might Peter have found to be surprising, implausible, or offensive about Jesus' statement in v. 31?

4. Agree/disagree: It was Peter's concern for Jesus' mental and emotional health that prompted him to rebuke Jesus.
5. Why do you think Jesus rebuked Peter with the words, "Get behind me, Satan!"?
6. How would you define "the cross" that Jesus says that every Christian must take up? (Can you give examples of it?)
7. Why does Jesus say that denying your "Self" is a "must" for Christians?
8. How does the voice of your Self often contradict God's Law? God's Gospel?
9. Where is the Gospel in this text?